

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION ARA-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00
SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 IO-13 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 /071 W
-----071076 091609Z /46

O R 091530Z SEP 78
FM AMEMBASSY MANAGUA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7743
INFO NSC WASHDC
AMEMBASSY MEXICO
AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA
AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR
AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
AMEMBASSY PANAMA
AMEMBASSY CARACAS

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANAGUA 4243

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINS, OAS, XK, VE, CS, NU
SUBJECT: OAS CONSIDERATION OF NICARAGUA

1. POL/LABOFF WAS VISITED ON 8 SEPTEMBER BY FRANCISCO CAMPBELL, ASSISTANT SECGEN OF FORMIN. DURING CONVERSATION, CAMPBELL BROUGHT UP VENEZUELAN CALL FOR OAS MEETING OF FORMINS. POL/LABOFF ASKED CAMPBELL'S VIEW OF OAS INTEREST. CAMPBELL REPLIED THAT, IN HIS VIEW, NICARAGUA'S CURRENT SITUATION WAS AN INTERNAL MATTER, INAPPROPRIATE FOR OAS ACTION. WHEN IT WAS POINTED OUT THAT THE GON ITSELF HAD "INTERNATIONALIZED" THE MATTER BY ALLEGING, FOR EXAMPLE, LAUNCHING RAIDS FROM COSTA RICA, CAMPBELL CONCEDED POINT BUT REITERATED OPPOSITION TO OAS INVOLVEMENT.

2. REPLYING TO A QUESTION CONCERNING GON RESPONSE SHOULD OAS APPROVE SOME TYPE OF ACTION RESOLUTION, CONFIDENTIAL

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CAMPBELL SIAD, "OF COURSE, THAT WOULD BE A POLITICAL BLOW. THE GOVERNMENT IS AFFORDED BY THE CONSTITUTION MEANS AND MECHANISMS TO PROTECT THE NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY. TO DO OTHERWISE WOULD CALL INTO QUESTION THE VERY EXISTENCE OF THE GOVERNMENT. THE CONSTITUTION REQUIRES THE GOVERNMENT, AND INDEED, EVERY NICARAGUAN, TO DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE IN SUCH A CASE." WHEN ASKED

IF IT WAS POSSIBLE THAT SOME TYPE OF OAS ACTION MIGHT NOT BE INCOMPATIBLE WITH NICARAGUA'S NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY, CAMPBELL REPLIED NEGATIVELY, ADDING, "SUCH AN EVENT WOULD CAUSE US TO QUESTION THE GOALS AND PURPOSES WHICH GUIDE THE INTER-AMERICAN SYSTEM."

3. COMMENT: WHILE CAMPBELL IS NOT A POLICY-MAKER, HIS VIEWS DO APPEAR TO COINCIDE WITH PRESIDENT SOMOZA'S INITIAL COMMENTS TO AMB ON THE INITIATIVE.
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